SF MIS Workgroup
Port Security Committee Communication Questions

Answers in italics from SF Bar Pilots August 1, 2003

1. How should the COTP announce changes MARSEC Level via UMIB?

A plain languge announcement directly to SF Marine Exchange. Let MX distribute from there.

2. How should the COTP inform the industry about threats/activities?

A *plain languge announcement directly to SF Marine Exchange. Let MX distribute from there.   If threats are imminent, general broadcasts from VTS to all mariners.*

3. How should the industry inform the COTP of observed threats/activities?

If threat is imminent, a plain language notification to VTS. Otherwise, notification to MX via fastest available methods.

4. How should the industry inform the COTP of security breaches?

If security breach is obviously leading to endangerment of personnel, property or equipment, plain language notification to VTS.   Otherwise, notification to MX via fastest available methods.

5. How should the industry inform the COTP of a Security/incident?

Plain language notification to MX via fastest possible methods.

6. How should automated alert system be used?

Unless the communication system can be focused to specific threatened recipients, an automated alert system should be used only in cases of general emergency, or imminent and general threat. This should be the electronic equivalent of a siren.

7. How should the Automatic Identification System (AIS) be used?

AIS should be used as the IFFF system is used in aviation. Lack of identification should prompt immediate response. A vessel under threat will turn off AIS to indicate a response is needed.

8. How should the MSO and industry handle MARSEC Directives?

Distribute information from MSA via MX to industry.